



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/719,148	12/08/2000	Guillaume Bichot	PF980074	5718

7590

07/01/2004

Joseph S Tripoli  
Thomson Multimedia Licensing Inc  
CN 5312  
Princeton, NJ 08540-0028

EXAMINER
----------

KLINGER, SCOTT M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2153

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/719,148

Applicant(s)

BICHOT ET AL.

Examiner

Scott M. Klinger

Art Unit

2153

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-7 are pending.

#### *Priority*

A claim for foreign priority has been made. The effective filing date for subject matter in the application is 8 June 1998.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 6 recites the limitation "said device" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Strecker et al. (U.S. Patent Number 4,777,595, hereinafter "Strecker"). Strecker discloses an apparatus for transferring blocks of information from one node to a second node in a computer network. Strecker shows,

In referring to claim 1,

- Opening a connection between said first device and said second device; having said second device allocate a message buffer to said connection, said second device communicating the message buffer size to said first device:

*"Prior to a transfer, the names, offsets and lengths of buffers in other nodes are determined and exchanged through higher level protocols. The message packets of the present invention reference only the name, length (in bytes) and offset (i.e., location relative to the starting address of the buffer) into the buffer. Offset mapping is also implementation-dependent."* (Strecker, col. 4, lines 9-15)

- Having said first device transmit said data packet to said second device, wherein said data packet is split and sent as payload in messages, where the size of the payloads is smaller or equal to said message buffer size:

*"To write data from a first node to a second node, the first node puts an appropriate number of so-called SNTDAT packets onto the communications bus, each containing a part of the data and labeled with the name of the destination (i.e., receiving) buffer in the second node and the offset in the receive buffer for that particular packet. A transaction identifier unique to the group of packets also is transmitted, for use in the message confirmation process."* (Strecker, col. 4, lines 16-24)

In referring to claim 2

- Said payloads have a first maximum length independent of said first and second devices:  
A maximum transmission unit (MTU) is inherently implied in a packet switching network
- A second maximum length dependent of said second device is constituted by said message buffer size, the shortest of said first and second maximum lengths being retained for sending messages to said second device:

*"Data packet length is discretely variable. All the packets of the transfer except the last should be of an agreed-upon size and the last packet should carry the remainder and be less than or equal to the preceding packets in size."* (Strecker, col. 5, lines 41-45)

A system that has nodes with different buffer sizes and a MTU based on the network, using the smallest of these sizes to send data packets is inherently implied

In referring to claim 3,

- Said connection is opened by said first device through a function call sent to said second device for writing data to said second device:

*"To minimize the number of host interrupts, commands can be generated in the receiving port automatically, responsive to a basic command from the sending port, as in the case of generating a confirmation message or performing a READ operation."* (Strecker, col. 5, lines 3-7)

In referring to claim 4,

- Said connection is opened by said second device through a function call sent to said first device for reading data from said first device:

*Strecker, col. 5, lines 3-7 (see full quote above)*

In referring to claim 5,

- Said first device comprises at least one data storage element for storing said data packet:  
Strecker, Fig. 1 shows the first device **14** has a data storage element **25A**

In referring to claim 6,

- Said device comprises more than one storage element, each of said storage elements being identified by an identifier:

Strecker, Fig. 1 shows the first device **14** has data storage elements **25A** and **25B**

In referring to claim 7,

- Said second device comprises at least one data storage element for storing said data packet:

Strecker, Fig. 1 shows the second device 16 has a data storage element 24C

***Conclusion***

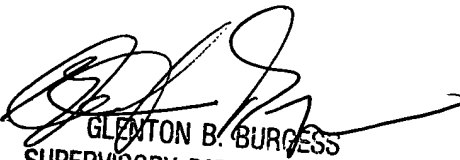
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott M. Klinger whose telephone number is (703) 305-8285. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00am - 3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Scott M. Klinger  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2153

smk

  
GLENN B. BURGESS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100